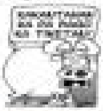
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

IMF: Political uncertainty biggest risk to RP economy

By Doris C. Dumlao and Michelle V. Remo

EVEN AS POLITICAL UNCERTAINTY RE-mains the biggest risk to the Philippine economy, the International Monetary Fund urged the Arroyo administration to send a strong signal to financial markets and restore investor confidence by avoi...

From whistles to guitars; traffic enforcers go musical



Friday, October 14, 2005



Allies warn GMA vs emergency rule

Ms Arroyo reminded Congress' concurrence needed

By TJ Burgonio

WITH MALACAÑANG ADMITTING THAT EMERGENCY rule was an option, administration lawmakers yesterday joined the opposition bandwagon, warning President Macapagal-Arroyo she risked losing not only the support of her political and military allies but also the presidency.

GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY?

'Documents so loose it's easy to get away with anything'

By Clarissa S. Batino

An Inquirer TEAM Report



GMA slams opposition, Senate in fiery speech

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and TJ Burgonio

NorthRail, NHA chiefs: Project on fast track for squatters

SC: Charge Michael Ray in Dacer-Corbito slays

Gov't moves to tighten land case

Panel has 30 days to study Luisita options

THE PRESIDENTIAL AGRARIAN REFORM COUNCIL YESTERDAY moved to strengthen the agrarian reform department's position revoking the stock distribution option agreement of Hacienda Luisita.

GMA forays into Cory country

House adjourns; JDV safe for now

Clear manifestation

Powerful slots



AUSSIE COMMANDER VISITS

Ships on humanitarian missions, says US official

Bishops to march against GMA's 'immoral rule'

3 killed in Abu ambush

From whistles to guitars; traffic enforcers go musical

IMF: Political uncertainty biggest risk to RP economy

Luz mulls complaint vs Palace over move

Aunor trial date reset to Dec. 12







THE DAILY PROTEST [illegible]

Allies warn GMA vs emergency rule

[illegible]

Takeover not warranted

[illegible]

Martial law a career-ender

[illegible]

Unnecessary, dysfunctional

[illegible]

Dangerous grounds

[illegible]

Trial balloon

[illegible]

Oakwood mutineers fire lawyer

By Dona Pazzibugan

SIX OF THE 29 ALLEGED CORE LEADERS OF the July 27, 2003,Oakwood mutiny have fired their lawyer due to "conflict of interest," raising speculation they had entered into a deal with the Arroyo administration.

Lawyer Roel Pulido, who had been on the case from the start, said in an interview he was told by the group that they no longer needed his services. He refused to disclose the specific reason they were letting him go, citing client-lawyer confidentiality.

"I was asked by six of the core leaders to step down due to a potential conflict of interest," Pulido said, adding he did not know if the six had entered into a plea bargain with the prosecution. Neither would he say what could possibly cause the conflict of interest.

Any such deal, however, should extend to all 29 so-called "Magdalo" leaders and the 67 junior officers who also joined the mutiny, otherwise it would be illegal, Pulido said.

He said he had heard that the six officers would be issuing a manifesto in support of President Macapagal-Arroyo, "but I don't know anything about it."

Pulido said it was Capt. Gerardo Gambala who asked him on behalf of the other five codefendants to withdraw as their counsel both in the coup d'etat case before the Makati Regional Trial Court and in the general courtmartial.

"It's nothing personal; we have a conflicting stand with the (rest of the) group," Pulido quoted Gambala as telling him.

The five others were Captains Milo Maestrecampo, Albert Baloloy and Laurence Louis Somera and First Lieutenants Rex Bolo and Florentino Somera Jr.

Pulido formally withdrew as counsel for the six officers before the Makati court on Wednesday.

He said he might also withdraw as counsel for eight other Magdalo officers in the courtmartial.

A majority of the 96 Magdalo officers were "disappointed" but respected their colleague's decision, Pulido said. He claimed that the military leadership wanted him out of the picture but he could not say why.

"They've been talking to my clients in the past. One of their conditions is that they terminate (my services)," he said.

Asked what the rebel officers were promised in return for dropping him as their attorney, Pulido replied: "The promise is *aayusin ang kaso nila* (their case will be fixed)."

Last year, Gambala, Maestrecampo and four other core leaders -- Captains Nicanor Faeldon and Gary Alejano and Lieutenants Senior Grade James Layug and Antonio Trillanes IV -- apologized to the President.

Even so, they were not allowed to enter into a plea bargain, a privilege that was extended to the 184 enlisted personnel who joined the 20-hour long mutiny.

Pulido said he did not agree with the apology, but respected the officers' decision and continued to represent them.

Talk on 'troubled' RP-US ties set

NEW ASPECTS OF THE TROUBLED HISTORY of Philippine-American relations will be the focus of a lecture by a visiting expert on the century-old relationship.

Dr. Sharon Delmendo, a former Fulbright Exchange Professor and a full professor of English at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, New York, will speak on "'Self-reliance is the key to progress': The Paradox of Sovereignty in Philippine and American Nationalisms" on Oct. 24, 2-4 pm, at the Social Science Audiovisual Room of Ateneo de Manila University in Loyola Heights, Quezon City.

The lecture is being sponsored by the Philippine Fulbright Scholars Association (PFSA) in cooperation with AdMU.

Last year, Delmendo published "The Star Entangled Banner: 100 Years of America in the Philippines." She had been Fulbright Professor of American Studies at De La Salle University Manila from 1995 to 1996.

According to Amazon.com, her book's title comes from "a ceremony held in 1996 to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of formal Philippine independence, [when] the United States flag was being lowered while the Philippine flag was being raised, and the two became entangled.

"In 'The Star-Entangled Banner,' Sharon Delmendo demonstrates that this incident is indicative of the longstanding problematic relationship between the two countries. When faced with a national crisis or a compelling need to reestablish its autonomy, each nation paradoxically turns to its history with the other to define its place in the world.

"Each chapter of the book examines a separate issue in this linked history: the influence of Buffalo Bill's show on the proto-nationalism of José Rizal, who is often described as the 'First Filipino;' the portrayal of the Philippines in an early colonial era American children's book; 'Back to Bataan,' a World War II movie starring John Wayne; 'Viajero' by F. Sionil José: and the US military's retention of the Balangiga Bells, which were taken as war booty during the Philippine-American War.

GMA slams opposition, Senate in fiery speech

[illegible]



"THE FIRST PHILIPPINES," the President leads the movers and shakers of the economy at the 31st Philippine Business Conference and Exposition. From left are businessmen Miguel Varela and Donald Dee.

Crossing the line

[illegible]

Show of strength

[illegible]

President's trust

[illegible]

Leave of absence

[illegible]

Fixation

[illegible]

Oversight functions

[illegible]

Rift widens

[illegible]

SC: Charge Michael ...

[illegible]

Dantes still missing

[illegible]



First 10 winners of PDI contest get their prizes

Mechanics

Where to look

Weekly grand draws

Japanese faces ouster for alleged beating, rape

Search for Filipino seaman called off

[illegible]

Fears of new Saudi work law allayed

[illegible]

METRO

Makati offers tax breaks to lure business

By Tarra V. Quismundo

Manila wants films at half price

By Tina G. Santos



TIME OUT

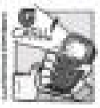
METROBRIEFS

Marikina's carillon bells



Judge loses van to car hijackers

Donate through text



The WORLD

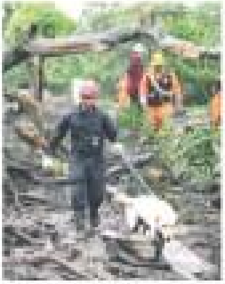
Quake-hit city out of space to bury dead

MUZAFFARABAD, PAKISTAN—IN DEVASTATED Muzaffarabad, at the heart of Saturday's earthquake, they are running out of space to bury the dead.

Wanna be James Bond? Call MI6



Deforestation doesn't trigger floods, UN report says



Minister in Hariri slay case kills self

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION



Sportsmanship

EDITORIAL

WHEN FAR EASTERN UNIVERSITY WON [illegible] over UAAP defending champion De La Salle University a few weeks ago in the first game of the finals, La Salle assistant team manager Manny Salgado elbowed FEU star player Arwind Santos on the nape. What followed was a near-riot as coins, plastic bottles and every other item that could be hurled were thrown about. Uniformed policemen had to intervene to keep the players and supporters of both schools from hurting each other. Salgado was banned from UAAP games for life; and he had to resign in disgrace: not only because his behavior was unbecoming of an assistant team manager, but also because it reflected poorly on his fellow La Salle alumni. Things weren't helped by La Salle coach Franz Pumaren, who was quoted as having said that the incident added spice to the series and heightened the rivalry between the two teams. La Salle president Bro. Armin Luistro, FSC had to put his foot down and say the last word: "We certainly will not condone any such act. The incident does not reflect the values we stand for as an educational institution." Salgado, to his credit, made an unqualified apology to La Salle, the UAAP board and fans for his actions.

Now La Salle faces another problem involving a student who falsified the equivalent of a high school diploma. This means that the student, in the words of a school official, was "neither eligible for admission to DLSU nor for participation as a member of DLSU's basketball team." This has rather depressing consequences for the DLSU team: if, indeed, it fielded an ineligible player, then the team's performance during those years would be suspect. The university, for example, might have to forfeit its 2004 UAAP men's basketball championship. The controversy involving a student faking papers in order to enter a school and play in a team is not unique to DLSU. A similar controversy affected the UAAP in 1994 when Marlou Aquino was found to have played for Adamson despite academic deficiencies—resulting in Adamson being suspended for the entire 1994 season.

Collegiate-level sports are an important part not only of campus life, but of our broader national life, binding students and alumni of institutions together, and pitting them against rival schools in sportsmanlike competition. At a time when civility and honor, accountability and integrity, have become empty phrases in public life, the manner in which collegiate communities have responded to unsportsmanlike and dishonorable behavior is heartening. In the case of the La Salle player, the UAAP board has allowed DLSU to complete its internal investigation on the issue, prior to mounting its own investigation. Anton Montinola, FEU's representative to the UAAP board, has not reacted to DLSU's problems by gloating, but instead by stating what sportsmanship entails: "If you have an ineligible player, there's no other recourse but forfeit all the games that he played." Simple as that.

There will be students from various schools who will be tempted to gloat over DLSU's woes, but those woes are not unique. And what concerns us here is not what the problems of DLSU say about the school, though the intense revulsion to both Salgado's hot-headedness and Pumaren's flippancy, expressed by the school's alumni and administration speaks highly of the school; rather, it is what the problems say about the youth. Not being new, the problems indicate the age-old temptation to undertake short cuts and engage in deceit, in the quest for glory and recognition. The reaction of DLSU, institutions such as the UAAP and the administration of other schools faced by similar instances of dishonorable conduct, points to the importance of institutions being the mechanism for upholding true sportsmanship.

Sportsmanship is not just about playing by the rules, but about playing according to the spirit of the rules, which demands respect for players in and among other players, their coaches and managers, their classmates and their fans. It is about responsibility and demanding it, even if—whether by a "lapse in judgment" on the court, or a deception undertaken at the registrar's office—the fault may be one person's, for a member's fault affects not only the whole team, but the whole school. We should be so lucky if the same insistence on sportsmanship and the rules were applied with equal vigor by the alumni of our universities in the sphere of public life.

Kabayan wants a bigger budget for himself?

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

ONE OF THE UP LAW CENTER'S REASONS for opposing the North Luzon Railways project is that it is allegedly overpriced. The squatters are opposing it because they don't want to be evicted from the railroad right-of-way where they are squatting on. The irony is that if the NorthRail project will be delayed, the final cost will be bigger. And if the squatters are not relocated now, they will lose the opportunity to own the houses and lots offered them now. They will continue to live in shanties along the railroad tracks, content with a congested, dirty community [illegible]—in short, a wretched existence.

If the project is stopped, even temporarily, the railroad right of way that has already been cleared of squatters will be invaded again by more squatters, including those who have already accepted payments from the government and those who have relocated. [illegible] Many of them will sell the rights to the houses that have been provided them and then go back to squatting. Thus, when the project is revived, the [illegible] of paying the squatters and relocating them will begin all over again, wasting more taxpayers' money in billions of pesos. [illegible]

It is the mistaken notion of squatters to resist relocation, largely because of false information fed them by their leaders, the professional squatting syndicates, who [illegible] make money out of the suffering of the urban poor. Their leaders would tell them that the relocation sites are far from their sources of livelihood, that the sites are not provided with electricity and water connections.

What the squatters don't realize is that the longer they hold out against relocation, the farther the available relocation sites get to be as the government runs out of land nearer to the urban areas. Those who agree to relocation early get the choicest lots.

When the squatters of Intramuros were relocated to Pagasa in Quezon City, they also howled. Pagasa, they thought, was the end of the world.

Now Pagasa is a middle-class community right behind Quezon City's North Edsa, just across [illegible] Avenue from Project 6 and the Veterans Memorial Hospital and golf course. [illegible] are now multimillionaires because they agreed early to relocate to Pagasa.

When more squatters were relocated to Sapang Palay in Bulacan, they also howled. Now Sapang Palay is also developing into a middle-class community, and the former squatters now living there are themselves also on the way to becoming multimillionaires. [illegible]

What's more, when the NorthRail is already operating, the former squatters can commute quickly and cheaply from their homes in the suburbs to Metro Manila—or anywhere else in Luzon—via the trains. [illegible] The complaint that the relocation sites are too far from their places of work would be a thing of the past.

In short, by blocking the NorthRail project, the squatters are blocking the improvement of their own living conditions.

Moreover, the railroad will provide more job opportunities, not only in the rail line itself, but in the many industries and businesses that will be encouraged by the cheap, quick and easy transportation for people and cargoes. Products and supplies will be cheaper and more plentiful. The countryside will be developed and its residents need not go to urban areas to work.

The reason urban areas are congested is that provincial folk leave their homes to look for jobs in the cities, where they endure appalling living conditions in squatter colonies, waiting for jobs that don't come. With the railroad, they can enjoy the sunshine, fresh air and the wide open spaces of the bucolic countryside and still work in the city.

Ask those who have been relocated earlier and did not sell the rights to their lots. They will tell you that agreeing to relocate was the best decision they ever made in their lives.

* * *

Vice President Noli de Castro is supposed to be a man of the masses. [illegible] In its first budget proposal under De Castro, the Office of the Vice President is asking for a hefty increase in its budget for 2006. And the government is supposed to be going bankrupt.

For "miscellaneous expenses" alone, De Castro is asking for an increase of [illegible] million. One of the very first things he asked for is [illegible] million to buy an "official vehicle" for his use. Whatever happened to President Macapagal-Arroyo's order not to buy luxury cars and to sell all that are already bought? De Castro also asked for a P1 million transportation allowance.

[illegible] did some quick arithmetic. "If you divide P1 million by 365 days," she said, "that means Noli will have a transportation allowance of [illegible] for each and every day of 2006, counting weekends and holidays."

Just for transportation?

Attempted break-in at my UP office

PASSION FOR REASON

Raul C. Pangalangan

ON WEDNESDAY MORNING, [illegible] at the UP College of Law called me to report that there was an attempted break-in into my faculty room at Malcolm Hall. We immediately called the UP police, who found the doorknob broken [illegible]. Clearly, someone had tried forcibly to open the door.

I am not given to conspiratorial theories, and I hope you do not think I'm paranoid. But there is nothing worth stealing from a teacher's office, in any case, nothing of commercial value. Just books, books, books—boring law books with no pictures, just long words [illegible].

One of the police investigators rather innocently suggested that maybe a law student wanted to break in to "steal his grade." How I wished life were so simple. [illegible]

[illegible]

Two, I actually hesitated to write about this attempted break-in, because perhaps that is exactly what you wanted me to do. Commentators now call it the "chilling effect" on freedom of speech, [illegible]

"Chilling effect" works through self-censorship by potential speakers who are thus frightened into silence. [illegible]

Three, about the position that I have taken [illegible] the NorthRail contract [illegible]. These were not political positions taken by partisans who are loyal to personalities. These are legal analyses [illegible].

Indeed, particularly in the case of the NorthRail contract, the Law Center first issued an opinion on the matter several months ago, way ahead of this overheated political season. The more recent opinion affirmed those findings and concluded that the [illegible] project failed to meet the public bidding requirements under Republic Act 9184, the constitutional requirement of prior concurrence by the Monetary Board, and the Government Auditing Code requirement of certification of the availability of funds. [illegible]

I hadn't planned on writing about this. [illegible] "There is nothing more powerful than an idea whose time has come."

* * *

Comments: [illegible]

Solidarity fatigue

COMMENTARY

Marcin Król

Generics again

PINOY KASI



Michael L. Tan

Women, rights and peace

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

'Benabays of Waterlilies'

LOOKING BACK



Ambeth R. Ocampo



Nothing but calibrated brutality

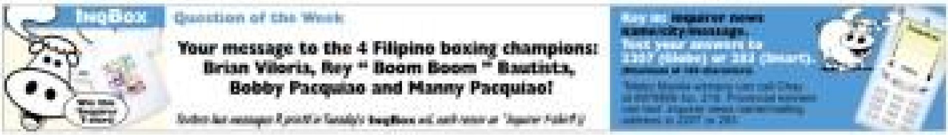
LETTERS

Animals are not for zoos; let them roam the wilderness

Prisoner of conscience

On how to move on

VOICES ON INQ7.NET

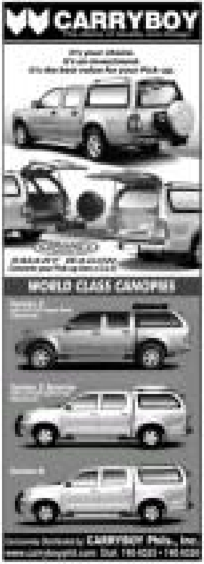


UAAP president knew all along

KNOWING THE UPROAR THAT IT COULD cause, the UAAP president admitted yesterday that he decided to keep quiet when De La Salle University informed him hours before Game 2 of its title series with Far Eastern University that there's an ineligible cager on its roster.

[illegible]





Across the NATION

GMA asked to help docs get better pay

ILAGAN, ISABELA—PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARroyo should work hard to raise the basic pay and benefits of government doctors to discourage them from leaving the country, several government doctors in Cagayan Valley said.

ROUNDUP

'Strike-free' Bicol



Counterfeit gang nabbed

12 climbers rescued

Garbage contract assailed

Feud of gov, vice gov turns into trade of raps

Spare road toll from new VAT, groups urge gov't

CEBU TRADER'S MURDER

Senator urges solution of slay

Hot Tour return for Miñoza

UAAP president knew all along

Shocking discovery

Similar controversy



NorthRail, NHA chiefs: Project on track for squatters

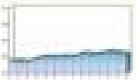
'Documents so loose it's easy ...

WHAT'S INSIDE

Business

Megaworld spending ₱7B for Newport City

CURRENCIES



SEPTEMBER OCTOBER

GOLD

STOCK MARKET

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX

SEPTEMBER OCTOBER



Shares down 0.16%

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

PROPERTY DEVELOPER Megaworld Corp. is earmarking ₱7 billion for the first phase of its 25-hectare hotel and residential project, dubbed the Newport City, at the Villamor Air Base in Pasay City, investor relations officer John Hao yesterday said in a briefing.

Initial investment solely for urban resort's 1st phase

Gov't OKs start of $100-M Didipio mining project

Japan to fund study for infra development in RP

BMW, BPI launch lease program for corporate market

DTI destroys ₱50M worth of seized goods

By Ronald W. Domingo

PLDT rating upgrade seen

By Clarissa S. Batino

INSULAR LIFE Investment Funds of Wealth Builder	UNIT PRICES (in Php) October 10, 2005	October 3, 2005
Fixed Income Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]
Balanced Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]
Equity Fund	[illegible]	[illegible]

RP crucial to Dell diversification

INVITATION TO BID

Disclosures

SMC tests beer in plastic bottles

COCKTAILS

Victor C. Agustin

Money-go-round

Heard through the grapevine

Family disconnection

Megaworld spending ...

RP crucial to Dell ...



BUSINESS

For RP, CME use means ₱23B/year in savings

Telcos take Sun suit to higher court

Regulator pushes capital market awareness in RP

Gender, agriculture and WTO

COMMENTARY

Recommendation

Background

The WTO link

Landbank plans to jack up capital to ₱48B in 3 years

LIFESTYLE
Editor: Chelo Banal-Formoso
...DAY FITNESS • WEDNESDAY 2BU • THURS



In and out of Sison

After three years, Michele Sison is back in designing



DRAWSTRING pouch of re-embroidered vintage sari

Text by Cheche V. Moral
Photos by Ogie Ventura

MICHELE SISON is anxious. Her absence may have lasted only three years, but in an industry where new names emerge each day eager to get a piece of the action, visibility is crucial.

Her anxiety, however, doesn't stem from the prospect of competition. The petite Sison, after all, was one of the hottest fashion designers in the '90s. She might have been away for sometime, but she hasn't been really forgotten. That there are more talents who want to get into the rag trade is healthy, she said.

But, of course, no matter past glories, Sison has to regain her footing by making small, tentative steps back into the fashion world.

If there's some trepidation, Sison isn't showing it. She laughed and rolled her eyes when asked about her "status," her "hibernation." She found the words amusing.

There's a sense of quietude about her, perhaps an indication that she had finally made peace with the tragic loss of her husband.

Her admission of a slight case of nerves at facing the press for the first time after years of [illegible] characteristic if one were to recall Sison's once high-profile, party-girl persona. She has deliberately avoided social functions, she said. She hasn't even gone out to watch fashion shows, which she sorely misses. "I don't miss the chismis (gossip)!" she said, laughing.

Bag designs

But her eyes lit up when she talked about her 40-piece bag collection that will be shown on Oct. 20 at The Peninsula Manila's Conservatory. Sison will headline the launch of Metrobank's Femme Visa card, a credit card that's said to be tailor-made for the needs of career women such as fashion and beauty junkies. Thus, the partnership with Sison.

"I'm back! I'm productive!" she said. Sison isn't only designing bags, she's also begun making clothes again. She has partnered with Joel Ong of the defunct Millennia to create Michele Sison for [illegible], a made-to-order line. She hopes to renew her membership with the Fashion Design Council of the Philippines.

"I'm more focused now," Sison said. "I'm learning how to say no... I'm not a very good salesperson. Before, if you say to me that you like something, I'll just give it to you. My sister used to [illegible]."

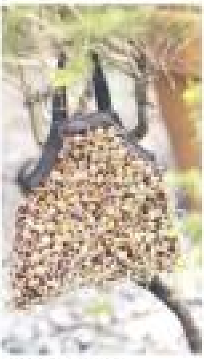
To heal her broken soul, Sison left the country on vacation. She also holed up in Tagaytay, expending her energy on building her weekend house. The new house became her creative outlet, her therapy.

"Doing the interiors, just picking the colors, it felt so good. It was very therapeutic," she said. Some of her purse designs were, in fact, inspired by "the shapes of kilns I see in Tagaytay." She has also opened a restaurant with her siblings.

Not dating

No, she's not dating yet. "But I'm happy. I'm

C2



BAGGED evening purse









In and out of Sison





